

Representative James A. Dunnigan proposes the following substitute bill:

ACCESS TO MEDICAL RECORDS AMENDMENTS

2022 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: James A. Dunnigan

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates a standard form to request health records.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ requires the department to create a standard form to request health records;
- ▶ requires a health care provider and the health care provider's contracted third party service provider to accept the standard form; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

78B-5-618, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 338

ENACTS:

26-69-101, Utah Code Annotated 1953



26 [26-69-102](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953

27

28 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

29 Section 1. Section **26-69-101** is enacted to read:

30 **CHAPTER 69. STANDARD HEALTH RECORD ACCESS FORM**

31 **26-69-101. Definitions.**

32 As used in this chapter:

33 (1) "HIPAA" means the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996,

34 Pub. L. No. 104-191, 110 Stat. 1936, as amended.

35 (2) "Legal representative" means the same as that term is defined in [26-21-302](#).

36 (3) "Patient" means the individual whose information is being requested.

37 Section 2. Section **26-69-102** is enacted to read:

38 **26-69-102. Standard health record access form.**

39 (1) Before December 31, 2022, the department shall create a standard form:

40 (a) that is compliant with HIPAA and 42 C.F.R. Part 2; and

41 (b) for any of the following to request a copy of the patient's health records:

42 (i) the patient; or

43 (ii) the patient's legal representative; or

44 (iii) a third party authorized by the patient.

45 (2) The form shall include fields for:

46 (a) the patient's name;

47 (b) the patient's date of birth;

48 (c) the patient's phone number;

49 (d) the patient's address;

50 (e) (i) the patient's signature and date of signature, which may not require notarization;

51 or

52 (ii) the signature of the patient's legal representative or authorized third party and date

53 of signature, which may not require notarization;

54 (f) the name, address, and phone number of the person to which the information will be

55 disclosed;

56 (g) the records requested, including whether the patient is requesting paper or

57 electronic records;

58 (h) the duration of time the authorization is valid; and

59 (i) the dates of service requested.

60 (3) The form shall include the following options for the field described in Subsection

61 (2)(g):

62 (a) history and physical examination records;

63 (b) treatment plans;

64 (c) emergency room records;

65 (d) radiology and lab reports;

66 (e) operative reports;

67 (f) pathology reports;

68 (g) consultations;

69 (h) discharge summary;

70 (i) outpatient clinic records and progress notes;

71 (j) behavioral health evaluation;

72 (k) behavioral health discharge summary;

73 (l) mental health therapy records;

74 (m) financial information including an itemized billing statement;

75 (n) health insurance claim form;

76 (o) billing form; and

77 (p) other.

78 Section 3. Section **78B-5-618** is amended to read:

79 **78B-5-618. Patient access to medical records -- Third party access to medical**
80 **records.**

81 (1) As used in this section:

82 (a) "Health care provider" means the same as that term is defined in Section

83 [78B-3-403](#).

84 (b) "Indigent individual" means an individual whose household income is at or below

85 100% of the federal poverty level as defined in Section [26-18-3.9](#).

86 (c) "Inflation" means the unadjusted Consumer Price Index, as published by the Bureau

87 of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, that measures the average

88 changes in prices of goods and services purchased by urban wage earners and clerical workers.

89 (d) "Qualified claim or appeal" means a claim or appeal under any:

90 (i) provision of the Social Security Act as defined in Section [67-11-2](#); or

91 (ii) federal or state financial needs-based benefit program.

92 ~~[(1)]~~ (2) Pursuant to Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health

93 Information, 45 C.F.R., Parts 160 and 164, a patient or a patient's personal representative may

94 inspect or receive a copy of the patient's records from a health care provider ~~[as defined in~~

95 ~~Section [78B-3-403](#);~~] when that health care provider is governed by the provisions of 45 C.F.R.,

96 Parts 160 and 164.

97 ~~[(2)]~~ (3) When a health care provider ~~[as defined in Section [78B-3-403](#)]~~ is not

98 governed by Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information, 45 C.F.R.,

99 Parts 160 and 164, a patient or a patient's personal representative may inspect or receive a copy

100 of the patient's records unless access to the records is restricted by law or judicial order.

101 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) A health care provider who provides a paper or electronic copy of a patient's

102 records to the patient or the patient's personal representative:

103 (a) shall provide the copy within the deadlines required by the Health Insurance

104 Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Administrative Simplification rule, 45 C.F.R. Sec.

105 164.524(b); and

106 (b) may charge a reasonable cost-based fee provided that the fee includes only the cost

107 of:

108 (i) copying, including the cost of supplies for and labor of copying; and

109 (ii) postage, when the patient or patient's personal representative has requested the copy

110 be mailed.

111 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) Except for records provided by a health care provider under Section [26-1-37](#), a

112 health care provider who provides a copy of a patient's records to a patient's attorney, legal

113 representative, or other third party authorized to receive records:

114 (a) shall provide the copy within 30 days after receipt of notice; and

115 (b) may charge a reasonable fee for paper or electronic copies, but may not exceed the

116 following rates:

117 (i) \$30 per request for locating a patient's records;

118 (ii) reproduction charges may not exceed 53 cents per page for the first 40 pages and 32

119 cents per page for each additional page;

120 (iii) the cost of postage when the requester has requested the copy be mailed;

121 (iv) if requested, the health care provider will certify the record as a duplicate of the
122 original for a fee of \$20; and

123 (v) any sales tax owed under Title 59, Chapter 12, Sales and Use Tax Act.

124 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) Except for records provided under Section 26-1-37, a contracted third party
125 service ~~[which]~~ that provides medical records, other than a health care provider under
126 Subsections ~~[(3)]~~ (4) and ~~[(4)]~~ (5), who provides a copy of a patient's records to a patient's
127 attorney, legal representative, or other third party authorized to receive records:

128 (a) shall provide the copy within 30 days after the request; and

129 (b) may charge a reasonable fee for paper or electronic copies, but may not exceed the
130 following rates:

131 (i) \$30 per request for locating a patient's records;

132 (ii) reproduction charges may not exceed 53 cents per page for the first 40 pages and 32
133 cents per page for each additional page;

134 (iii) the cost of postage when the requester has requested the copy be mailed;

135 (iv) if requested, the health care provider or the health care provider's contracted third
136 party service will certify the record as a duplicate of the original for a fee of \$20; and

137 (v) any sales tax owed under Title 59, Chapter 12, Sales and Use Tax Act.

138 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) A health care provider or the health care provider's contracted third party
139 service shall deliver the medical records in the electronic medium customarily used by the
140 health care provider or the health care provider's contracted third party service or in a
141 universally readable image such as portable document format:

142 (a) if the patient, patient's personal representative, or a third party authorized to receive
143 the records requests the records be delivered in an electronic medium; and

144 (b) the original medical record is readily producible in an electronic medium.

145 ~~[(7)]~~ (8) (a) Except as provided in Subsections ~~[(7)]~~ (8)(b) and (c), the per page fee in
146 Subsections ~~[(3), (4), and (5)]~~ (4), (5), and (6) applies to medical records reproduced
147 electronically or on paper.

148 (b) ~~[For record requests made on or after July 1, 2018, the]~~ The per page fee for
149 producing a copy of records in an electronic medium shall be 50% of the per page fee

150 otherwise provided in this section, regardless of whether the original medical records are stored
151 in electronic format.

152 (c) (i) ~~[For electronic record requests made on or after July 1, 2021, a]~~ A health care
153 provider or a health care provider's contracted third party service shall deliver the medical
154 records in the electronic medium customarily used by the health care provider or the health care
155 provider's contracted third party service or in a universally readable image, such as portable
156 document format, if the patient, patient's personal representative, patient's attorney, legal
157 representative, or a third party authorized to receive the records, requests the records be
158 delivered in an electronic medium.

159 (ii) An entity providing requested information under Subsection ~~[(7)]~~ (8)(c)(i):

160 (A) shall provide the requested information within 30 days; and

161 (B) may not charge a fee for the electronic copy that exceeds \$150 regardless of the
162 number of pages and regardless of whether the original medical records are stored in electronic
163 format.

164 ~~[(8)(a) As used in this section, "inflation" means the unadjusted Consumer Price
165 Index, as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor,
166 that measures the average changes in prices of goods and services purchased by urban wage
167 earners and clerical workers:]~~

168 ~~[(b)]~~ (9) (a) ~~[Beginning January 1, 2022, and on January 1 of each year thereafter,]~~ On
169 January 1 of each year, the state treasurer shall adjust the following fees for inflation:

170 (i) the fee for providing patient's records under:

171 (A) Subsections ~~[(4)]~~ (5)(b)(i) through (ii); and

172 (B) Subsections ~~[(5)]~~ (6)(b)(i) through (ii); and

173 (ii) the maximum amount that may be charged for an electronic copy under Subsection
174 ~~[(7)]~~ (8)(c)(ii)(B).

175 ~~[(e)]~~ (b) ~~[On or before January 30, 2022, and on or before January 30 of each year
176 thereafter]~~ On or before January 30 of each year, the state treasurer shall:

177 (i) certify the inflation-adjusted fees and maximum amounts calculated under this
178 section; and

179 (ii) notify the Administrative Office of the Courts of the information described in
180 Subsection ~~[(8)(e)(i)]~~ (9)(b)(i) for posting on the court's website.

181 ~~[(9) (a) As used in this Subsection (9), "qualified claim or appeal" means a claim or~~
 182 ~~appeal under any:]~~

183 ~~[(i) provision of the Social Security Act as defined in Section [67-11-2](#); or]~~

184 ~~[(ii) federal or state financial needs-based benefit program:]~~

185 ~~[(b)]~~ (10) Notwithstanding Subsections ~~[(3) through (5)]~~ (4) through (6), if a request
 186 for a medical record is accompanied by documentation of a qualified claim or appeal, a health
 187 care provider or the health care provider's contracted third party service:

188 ~~[(i)]~~ (a) may not charge a fee for the first copy of the record for each date of service
 189 that is necessary to support the qualified claim or appeal in each calendar year;

190 ~~[(ii)]~~ (b) for a second or subsequent copy in a calendar year of a date of service that is
 191 necessary to support the qualified claim or appeal, may charge a reasonable fee that may not:

192 ~~[(A)]~~ (i) exceed 60 cents per page for paper photocopies;

193 ~~[(B)]~~ (ii) exceed a reasonable cost for copies of X-ray photographs and other health
 194 care records produced by similar processes;

195 ~~[(C)]~~ (iii) include an administrative fee or additional service fee related to the
 196 production of the medical record; or

197 ~~[(D)]~~ (iv) exceed the fee provisions for an electronic copy under Subsection ~~[(7)]~~
 198 (8)(c); and

199 ~~[(iii)]~~ (c) shall provide the health record within 30 days after the day on which the
 200 request is received by the health care provider.

201 ~~[(10) (a) As used in this Subsection (10), "indigent individual" means an individual~~
 202 ~~whose household income is at or below 100% of the federal poverty level as defined in Section~~
 203 ~~[26-18-3.9](#).]~~

204 ~~[(b)]~~ (11) (a) Except as otherwise provided in Subsections ~~[(3) through (5)]~~ (4) through
 205 (6), a health care provider or the health care provider's contracted third party service shall
 206 waive all fees under this section for an indigent individual.

207 ~~[(e)]~~ (b) A health care provider or the health care provider's contracted third party
 208 service may require the indigent individual or the indigent individual's authorized
 209 representative to provide proof that the individual is an indigent individual by executing an
 210 affidavit.

211 ~~[(d)]~~ (c) (i) An indigent individual that receives copies of a medical record at no charge

212 under this Subsection [~~(10)~~] (11) is limited to one copy for each date of service for each health
213 care provider, or the health care provider's contracted third party service, in each calendar year.

214 (ii) Any request for additional copies in addition to the one copy allowed under
215 Subsection [~~(10)(d)(i)~~] (11)(c) is subject to the fee provisions described in Subsection [~~(9)~~]
216 (10).

217 (12) By January 1, 2023, a health care provider and all of the health care provider's
218 contracted third party health related services shall accept a properly executed form described in
219 Title 26, Chapter 69, Standard Health Record Access Form.